



9200/2835

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number

09/330,034

Filing Date

06/11/1999

First Named Inventor

Min-Chen Hsu

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

16

Attorney Docket Number

PMX074

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

Fee Transmittal Form



Fee Attached



Amendment / Reply



After Final



Affidavits/declaration(s)



Extension of Time Request



Express Abandonment Request



Information Disclosure Statement



Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

Response to Missing Parts/
Incomplete ApplicationResponse to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53Assignment Papers
(for an Application)

Drawing(s)



Licensing-related Papers



Petition

Petition to Convert to a
Provisional ApplicationPower of Attorney, Revocation
Change of Correspondence
Address

Terminal Disclaimer



Request for Refund



CD, Number of CD(s) _____

After Allowance Communication
to GroupAppeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and InterferencesAppeal Communication to Group
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)

Proprietary Information



Status Letter

Other Enclosure(s) (please
identify below):Petition to request consideration of the
information disclosure statement

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENTFirm
or
Individual name

WINSTON HSU

Signature

Winston Hsu

Date

4/9/2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILINGI hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

Typed or printed name

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Date

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PTO/SB/17 (10-01)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2002

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 0.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/330,034
Filing Date	06/11/1999
First Named Inventor	Min-Chen Hsu
Examiner Name	
Group Art Unit	
Attorney Docket No.	PMXP0074USA

METHOD OF PAYMENT

1. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number: 50-0801
Deposit Account Name: North America International Patent Office

☒ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

2. ☐ Payment Enclosed:

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other

FEE CALCULATION**1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101 740	201 370	Utility filing fee	
106 330	206 165	Design filing fee	
107 510	207 255	Plant filing fee	
108 740	208 370	Reissue filing fee	0.00
114 160	214 80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 0.00

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	-20** =	X	
Multiple Dependent Claims	-3** =	X	

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103 18	203 9	Claims in excess of 20
102 84	202 42	Independent claims in excess of 3
104 280	204 140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109 84	209 42	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110 18	210 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0.00

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)**3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	
116 400	216 200	Extension for reply within second month	
117 920	217 460	Extension for reply within third month	
118 1,440	218 720	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128 1,960	228 980	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119 320	219 160	Notice of Appeal	
120 320	220 160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121 280	221 140	Request for oral hearing	
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141 1,280	241 640	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142 1,280	242 640	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143 460	243 230	Design issue fee	
144 620	244 310	Plant issue fee	
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123 50	123 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
126 180	126 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146 740	246 370	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149 740	249 370	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179 740	279 370	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169 900	169 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 0.00

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	WINSTON HSU	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	41,526	Telephone	886-2-8923-7350
Signature	<i>Winston Hsu</i>			Date	4/9/2002

Complete (if applicable)

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Min-Chen Hsu; Chang-Kun Lu

5 Filing Date: 06/11/1999

Docket No.: PMX074

Serial No.: 09/330,034

Title: SUPPORTING APPARATUS

10

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Subject:

15

1. Information disclosure statement under 37C.F.R. §1.56.
2. Petition to request consideration of the information disclosure statement.

Dear Sir:

20

This is an Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the duty to disclose information material to patentability under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicants wish to make of record the document listed on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the examiner initials the cited reference on the form and that it be made of record in the application and that a copy of the initialed form be sent to the applicants with the next communication from the examiner.

30

Since the IDS is filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, a petition to request consideration of the information disclosure statement is hereby requested according to 37C.F.R. §1.97(b). The prior art patent contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in communications from the Taiwan Intellectual Property Office on Sept. 18, 2000. Applicants sincerely hope that the examiner

35

can consider the item contained in the information disclosure statement.

5 According to the requirement set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.98 and M.P.E.P. 609 (Rev.1, Feb. 2000), applicants are submitting a copy of the cited reference (Taiwan Patent No. 335,994) and a concise explanation of the relevance in this application hereinafter.

10 TP No.335,994 teaches to an improved cable carrier which is used to carry a cable. Fig.1 is a schematic diagram of an improved cable carrier 1. The cable carrier 1 comprises an outer tube 10, a pliable but strong plastic rope 14 disposed inside the outer tube 10, a supporting tube 12 installed in
15 parallel to the outer tube 10, a multicore steel wire 13 disposed inside the supporting tube 12, and a conjunction tape 11 connecting the outer tube 10 and the supporting tube 12.

Fig.2 is a schematic diagram illustrating how the cable
20 carrier 1 is fixed to a flat wall 5. As shown in Fig.2, only a nail is needed to fix the cable carrier 1 onto the flat wall 5. After the cable carrier 1 is fixed onto the flat wall 5, one end of the plastic rope 14 can be connected to a cable and the cable can be pulled into the outer tube 10 by pulling
25 the other end of the plastic rope 14 away from the outer tube 10.

Fig.3 is a schematic diagram illustrating how the cable
carrier 1 is fixed to a house or a bridge. In this embodiment,
30 part of the conjunction tape 11 is cut to separate from the supporting tube 12 so that a fixing device 3 can fix the supporting tube 12 and the multicore steel wire 13 onto the house or on the bridge.

35 Fig.4, which is prior art disclosed in TP No.335,994, illustrates that a supporting tube 4a and an outer tube 20

are connected by thin wires 4b. And the fixing device 3 is used to fix the supporting tube 4a onto a house or a bridge.

5 Claim 1 of the present application is repeated below for reference:

"1. A supporting apparatus for supporting an electric device in a car comprising:
10 a plug having a front end and a rear end over which the front end of the plug being can be plugged into and fixed in an electric socket of the car;
a flexible steel tube having two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately;
15 a plurality of flexible steel wire ropes each having two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately, the plurality of steel wire ropes being positioned separately at two sides of the steel tube for strengthening the steel tube; and
20 anelectricwireinstalledinthesteeltubebeforelectrically connecting the electric device to the plug;
wherein when an user bends or rotates the supporting apparatus, the steel tube and steel wire ropes of the supporting apparatus will be flexibly bent or rotated and the electric device will be approximately maintained at
25 the bent or rotated position."

The differences between claim 1 of the present application and the cited art are listed as follows:

- 30 1) Claim 1 of the present application claims a supporting apparatus for supporting an electric device in a car. The cited art teaches a cable carrier, not a supporting apparatus for supporting an electric device in a car.
- 35 2) The supporting apparatus of claim 1 of the present application comprises a plug having a front end and a rear

end over which the front end of the plug can be plugged into and fixed in an electric socket of the car. The cited art fails to teach a plug, and fails to teach that the cable carrier can be plugged into and fixed in an electric socket of the car.

3) The supporting apparatus of claim 1 of the present application comprises a flexible steel tube having two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately. The cited art teaches a plastic rope 14 which has an end connected to a cable and the cable can be pulled into the outer tube 10 by pulling the other end of the plastic rope 14 away from the outer tube 10. However, the cited art fails to teach that the plastic rope 14 has two ends fixed to a rear end of a plug and an electric device separately.

4) The supporting apparatus of claim 1 of the present application comprises a plurality of flexible steel wire ropes each having two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately, the plurality of steel wire ropes being positioned separately at two sides of the steel tube for strengthening the steel tube. The cited art teaches a pliable but strong plastic rope 14 disposed inside the outer tube 10, and a multicore steel wire 13 disposed inside the supporting tube 12. However, neither the plastic rope 14 nor the steel wire 13 has two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately. Further, the cited art fails to teach that one of the steel wire 13 and the plastic rope 14 is used to strengthen the other.

5) The supporting apparatus of claim 1 of the present application comprises an electric wire installed in the steel tube for electrically connecting the electric device to the plug. Although a cable can be pulled into the outer tube 10 of the cited art, the cited art fails to teach where the two ends of the cable are connected to.

6) In claim 1 of the present application, when an user bends or rotates the supporting apparatus, the steel tube and steel wire ropes of the supporting apparatus will be flexibly bent or rotated and the electric device will be approximately maintained at the bent or rotated position. The cited art, however, fails to teach the situation of the cable carrier when the cable carrier is bent or rotated.

Based on at least the above differences, it is believed that claim 1 of the present application is substantially different from the cited art patent TP No.335,994. And since all other claims are dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be substantially different from the cited art.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date: 4/9/2002

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PTQ/SB/08A (10-96)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

of

Complete if Known

Application Number

09/330,034

Filing Date

06/11/1999

First Named Inventor

Min-Chen Hsu

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

PMX074

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

Date _____

Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number.

² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter

¹ Unique citation designation code (WIPO Standard ST.3).

⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial

number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if

number of the parent document. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached possible.

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